

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-8, 10-17 and 19-32 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 18 is canceled. No new matter is added. In view of at least the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of claims 1, 3-8, 10-17 and 19-32.

Claim 18 is objected to as including minor informalities, and is also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0054986 (Leman), U.S. Patent No. 6,088,220 (Katz), U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0050980 (Furuki), and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,081,207 (Batio).

By the above amendments claim 18 is canceled. Accordingly, all pending claims have been allowed.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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